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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/690,121	10/20/2003	Tuan A. Le	843161-320	3631

7590 08/07/2006
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PO Box 398
Austin, TX 78767-0398

EXAMINER

DANG, KHANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2111

DATE MAILED: 08/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

10/690,121

Applicant(s)

LE ET AL.

Examiner

Khanh Dang

Art Unit

2111

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 27 July 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 5 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☒ The Notice of Appeal was filed on 27 July 2006. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☐ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed: _____.
Claim(s) objected to: _____.
Claim(s) rejected: _____.
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
13. ☐ Other: _____.



Khanh Dang
Primary Examiner

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: The Examiner maintains his position that the rejected claims, as broadly drafted, do not define any structure/step that differs from Larson. In response to Applicants' remark, it is again, important to note that claims 1 and 10 require "mapping said hot-swap state onto an intermediate state by searching a common library associated with said CPCI node card and a management software for CPCI node card" (emphasis added). The Examiner agrees with Applicant that there are two mapping steps. However, contrary to Applicants' argument presented in the 2/21/2006 response to the non-final Office Action, there is only one "hot swap state" and "one intermediate state." The Examiner has never stated that there was no mapping required in the claims, as alleged by Applicants. In fact, it was and it is still the Examiner's position that claim 1 does not require "intermediate states [more than one intermediate state] and "hot-swap states [more than one hot swap state]" and mapping said hot-swap states (more than one state) onto intermediate states (more than one state). In response to Applicants' argument regarding the signal line, it is still the Examiner's position that the input signal line carries signal representing statuses or states. Note that "state" simply means a current or last-known status, or condition, of a process, transaction or setting. In response to Applicants' argument that "[a]ny inferences made as to whether the FPGA has some 'library' is purely speculation," it is noted that the term "FPGA library" is well-defined in the computer art. A simple search in Google will result in numerous references to the term "FPGA library." In addition, it is also noted that "input signals" representing the statuses or states are different from "input signal lines." Again, "state" simply means a current or last known status, or condition, of a process, namely the hot swap process. With regard to Applicants' argument regarding "management software" for managing the CPCI node card, it is clear that according to the CompactPCI Hotswap Specification and particularly Larson, for management purpose, availability of the card and operational state of the card must be monitored and determined (BDSEL# and HEALTHY#), which are software implemented. ..